



CLOTH

CLuster Alliance fOR the Transition
to green and digital fasHion

ClusterXchange in Turkiye

30th October – 1st November 2023





Objectives:

- New knowledge and understanding of sustainability and circular economy in Türkiye within textiles
- New contacts in Türkiye within the textile industry
- Understanding of the strengths of the Turkish textile industry
- Introduced to local designers, companies, manufacturers, organizations with experience within sustainability

AGENDA

DAY	LOCATION	ACTIVITIES
29 th October 2023	XXX – IST IST – ADB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Departure from XXX - Arrival in Istanbul Airport - Flight to Izmir via Istanbul Airport - Arrival to hotel in Izmir
30 th October 2023	Izmir	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with Aegean Exporters Association (EIB) - Visit to Sun Tekstil - Visit to TYH Tekstil - Departure from Izmir & Arrival in Usak (by bus) - Arrival to hotel in Usak
31 st October 2023	Uşak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Visit to Polat Tekstil - Visit to Sarıklıç Non-wovens - Meeting with Usak Chamber of Commerce and Industry - Departure from Usak to Izmir Airport (by bus) - Departure from Izmir Airport & Arrival to Istanbul Airport Hotel
1 st November 2023	Istanbul	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meeting with The Business and Sustainable Development Council (SKD Türkiye) including roundtable discussions regarding circularity - Visit to Maritas Denim - Visit to ÖkoteK Engineering (tbc) - Arrival to Istanbul Airport Hotel
2 nd November 2023	IST-XXX	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Departure from Istanbul & Arrival in XXX Airport

All flights and hotels shall be booked by each person/company. One hotel suggestion will be shared with you in order to book it. All companies need to book the same hotel.

Each participant company will receive a voucher of 375 euros to cover expenses for this trip.



Turkish company/organization visits – profile descriptions

Aegean Exporters' Associations (EIB) Izmir

Web: <https://www.eib.org.tr/en/>

The Aegean Exporters' Associations, one of the unique examples of public and private sector cooperation established in Türkiye, has built herself into a research, coordination, decision making and implementing institution, which works for the promotion of Türkiye's exports and provides the smooth and functional running of the relationships between the exporters and the law making system in a rational and dynamic way. Working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Trade, Aegean Exporters' Associations General Secretariat comprises of 12 different associations and serves over 8.000 member companies. The institution organizes The Sustainability Talks annually and implements circular economy project with the textile leaders in the Aegean region.

Sun Tekstil Izmir

Web: <https://www.suntekstil.com.tr/>

Founded in 1987, Sun Tekstil is a leader in Türkiye for manufacturing and exporting textiles and garments and a family of 1900+ people. Preferred by prestigious fashion brands, Sun Tekstil designs, produces and offers trendsetting styles with a focus on circular knit fabrics and ready-made womenswear garments. With the support of a large production network, Sun Tekstil has the capability to quickly adapt and respond to clients' needs. Sun Tekstil is a participant in the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative, UN Global Compact. It supports 17 SDGs and has identified four SDGs that they believe can have the greatest impact and contribution.

TYH Tekstil Izmir

Web: <https://www.tyh.com.tr>

Established in 2000, TYH Tekstil is one of the largest garment manufacturers in Turkey with more than 4000 employees and the production capacity over 20 million pieces. TYH Tekstil has 8 production facilities located in Marmara, Aegean and the Black Sea regions. They have 2 headquarters in Istanbul and Izmir and regional offices in the U.S. and the U.K. TYH Tekstil works with recycled fabrics, waste management, rainwater harvesting and energy preservation.

Uşak Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Web: <https://usaktso.org/>

Uşak Chamber of Commerce and Industry has been making maximum efforts since 1891 in order to develop the economy, trade and industrial life of Türkiye and the region, and to gain new impetus to it. Today, Uşak is an industrial city that produces 80% of Türkiye's blankets, 50% of bandage production, 65% of sweater and knitwear yarn, 60% of sheep leather production, and 15% of ceramics. With the initiative of Uşak Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Waste Recycling Industry Assembly was established in addition to the 61 sector assembly at Association of Chambers and Exchanges of Türkiye. Green Deal working group was formed in Uşak province under the leadership of Uşak University and Uşak Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The cluster manages



Uşak Textile Recycling Export-Oriented Development of Sustainable Competition project and EU IPA III projects on sustainability.

Uşak University Textile Engineering Department

Web: <https://tekstilmuh.usak.edu.tr/>

Uşak University Textile Engineering Department was established in 1993 as the first department established in Uşak Engineering Faculty. The department still constitutes one of the nine departments of the Faculty of Engineering. The aim of the Textile Engineering Department is to have a basic engineering formation; equipped with comprehensive and up-to-date information in the field of textile engineering; active in design, R&D and production practices in public and private sector organizations; able to lead in collaborative work and develop in their career; producing solutions to the problems in the textile sector by taking into account the technical, economic and sociological factors; able to work in competitive conditions; designs and develops textile products and processes without compromising ethical values and quality awareness; To train entrepreneurial and innovative engineers who have the flexibility and adaptability to work in different areas of the textile industry. Textile Engineering Department leads the sustainability and circular textile ecosystem of Uşak province.

Sarıklıç Non-wovens, Uşak

Web: <http://stsnonwovens.com.tr/>

Sarıklıç Nonwovens is one of the biggest technical textile producers in Türkiye, using fully recycled materials. The company produces, non-woven, felt, geotextile and technical products used in big engineering and construction projects in Türkiye. This consists of tunnel constructions, hospital projects and big housing projects.

Polat Tekstil, Uşak

Web: <https://www.polatbattaniye.com.tr/>

Polat Yarn was established in 2003 and operates in Uşak as a cotton-polyester recycled yarn, cotton blanket and woven fabric producer and recycling center. The company, which was founded jointly by Fahri and Erol Polat brothers, carries out its production activities in a closed area of 40.000 m² in the Uşak Organized Industrial Zone. The company implements circularity, starting from yarn scraps to the end products of blankets.

Haksa Tekstil, Uşak

Web: <https://haksatekstil.com.tr/en/home-page/>

Founded in 1986 and having an experience of over 30 years in recycling, Haksa is among the most important industrial companies in Turkey showing active in national and international markets. Haksa, which has reflected its understanding of quality to the entire production process since its establishment, aims to always achieve better with a modern management philosophy in order to achieve its strategic goals. Embracing healthy life as the most important value, Haksa started off from the principle of sustainable production and switched to environmentally friendly yarn production from recycled cotton fiber.



The Business and Sustainable Development Council (SKD) Istanbul

Web: <https://www.skdturkiye.org/>

The Business and Sustainable Development Council (BCSD Türkiye) was established in 2004 under the leadership of 13 private sector representatives and is a business association that only accepts corporate memberships. As the regional network and business partner of the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), BCSD Türkiye shares the sustainability issues that come with this collaboration with its members, which include working groups, and through its various platforms. BCSD recently published Circular Economy Guide for Textile and Fashion Industry to guide textile leaders in Türkiye.

Maritaş Denim Istanbul

Web: <https://www.maritasdenim.com/>

Maritaş Denim is a Turkish denim company that supplies international brands with fabric. As well as meeting all of the mandatory guidelines as part of The Jeans Redesign and working to reduce its water consumption, Maritaş Denim has put a focus on researching and developing fabrics fit for a circular economy. Cotton has been a key priority. In 2023, Maritaş Denim partnered with Harran University and Gaziantep University on a project to explore cotton production with regenerative outcomes for nature. Working with academics and farmers in the South East of Türkiye, an important agricultural region, the project will supply cotton to the factory while also undertaking research into the challenges, and best practices for taking a regenerative approach to growing cotton in the area.

Blue Matters / Ereks Garment, Istanbul

Web: <https://www.ereks garment.com/>

Based on 45 years of textile & apparel business experience, EREKS and ERA are positioned in the EU market as sustainable denim and woven garments producers & exporters with a solid reputation. In 2010, EREKS and ERA started to produce "Jeans" in a sustainable way (organic & recycled content fabrics + trims, eco-washes). In 2020, EREKS and ERA reviewed their strategy and decided to go circular by 2030; these are the 6 pillars they have decided to work on: REDuce, REUse, RECycle, RETHink, RENew, REGenerate. In line with their strategy, Blue Matters Responsible Production Platform newly established by EREKS and ERA, is a fully integrated green production facility, uniquely designed to deliver sustainable and customized denim washing technology; with a development center, sustainable washing unit, sewing unit and finishing unit.

For more information, please visit <https://clothproject.eu/>



The content of this document represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility; it cannot be considered to reflect the views of the European Commission and/or the Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) or any other body of the European Union. The European Commission and the Agency do not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.